



ANNUAL REPORT

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Raporti vjetor 24.



ANNUAL REP2024RT



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FUNDERS

Community Development Fund

Embassy of Sweden in Kosovo

Austrian Embassy

Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mitrovica Municipality - Directory of Youth,
Culture and Sport

Mitrovica Municipality - Directory of Economy,
Development, Tourism and European Integrations

Fego Project

Swiss Office for Cooperation in Kosovo

⇓ Youth and Environment Europe

5000+ visitors at Green Fest

**100+ visitors
at Visit Trepça**

30+ volunteers

**2 exhibitions
and
3 art installations**

**2 published
researches**

5 trainings/50 participants

**Publication of
the ZaNa Poetry Book**

**art in
schools 300+
participants**

**16 music
performances**

**4 workshops for
economy and tourism**

**9 recreational
activities**

**8 educative
activities**



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FOREWORD

Dear friends,

Every year, as we reflect on the journey of 7Arte, we see the countless stories that have been woven together through art, activism, and community. What began as a small group of artists in Mitrovica has now grown into a vibrant cultural movement—a space that challenges boundaries, celebrates diversity, and nurtures creativity in unexpected ways.

Mitrovica is a city of contrasts. Here, culture is not just something we experience, it is something we create together. Whether through Green Fest, ZaNa Literature Festival, or steps toward transforming industrial heritage into artistic spaces, we have built a platform where voices—heard and unheard—can be freely expressed.

Over the course of this year, we have worked to make our cultural program more inclusive, more sustainable, and more impactful. We have empowered young artists through 7Arte Academy, addressed environmental issues through artistic expression, and strengthened our role as a bridge between tradition and innovation. We have remained true to the belief that art is not only a reflection of society, but a force that can shape its future.

Our vision goes beyond the activities we organize. We imagine a Mitrovica where abandoned buildings are turned into creative centers, where young people can see a future in art, and where cultural heritage is preserved not only in memory, but also in practice. This is a vision that requires dedication, collaboration, and the unwavering belief that art has the power to change the ecosystem and our lives.

None of this would be possible without our incredible team, partners, and supporters—those who believe in the role of culture in shaping a more just and sustainable world. Thank you for walking with us on this journey. As we move forward, we invite you to dream with us, build with us, and continue to make 7Arte a home for creativity and change.

With gratitude,

Lulzim Hoti

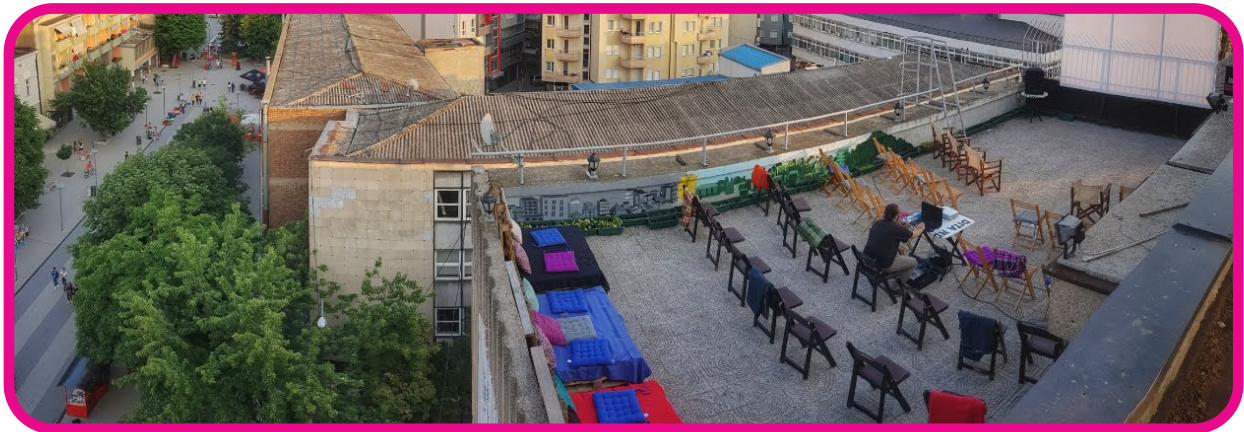
Executive Director, 7Arte

ABOUT 7ARTE

7Arte was established in May 2006 by a group of local artists in Mitrovica, Kosovo. With 18 years of experience, 7Arte plays the role of a cultural alternative center by organizing multidisciplinary cultural activities such as audio-visual workshops, music festivals, outdoor screenings, street art, poetry nights, exchange programs and education programs, and environmental actions.

7Arte is located in the industrial city of Mitrovica, where a rich ethnic and cultural diversity is intertwined. Being an area rich in minerals and with a special geo-strategic position where the mountains of Kopaonik end, meet three rivers, have made this city desired over the centuries, by different civilizations. 7Arte is located in a city that has a rich cultural diversity and unfortunately is divided into two municipalities based on ethnic differences.

The main office of 7Arte is located in the city center, in a building that has a brutal architectural style, which was made for the bank known as Bankos during the modernization of Mitrovica city in the middle of the XX century. Since 2011, 7Arte has been running the last floor of this building, which has a 120-meter square terrace with a special view of the city center where most of the cultural activities are organized.



7Arte's main goal is: To support Kosovar artists; promoting and developing a common European culture. By applying arts and culture as a force toward creating an inclusive, peaceful, and sustainable region. Our strategic goals focus on three programs: 1. Development of an alternative cultural-artistic scene 2. Empowering youth and nonformal education; and 3. Promoting the Sustainable development of the region via culture and arts; 7Arte involves and encourages women to be active in different initiatives and programs with a focus on the creative industry, and cultural heritage; an organisation that includes environmental components, strives to revitalize abandoned places and to advocate toward inclusive local cultural politics.



PROJECTS

1. Institutional Grant - Empowering Environmental NGOs

2. ZaNa Literature Fest

3. Empowering the Unheard

4. Trepça Heritage Trail Development

5. Green Fest

6. Arte Academy

ECONOMY

Impact in Economy	
Category	Financial Values
Economy/business	62,831.58
Tourism and services	9,207.13
Jobs generated and supported	62,700.00
State taxes generated	15,626.40
Engaged Experts	22,975.67
Engaged Artists	30,196.34

203,537.12



7ARTE ACADEMY

The main goal of the 7Arte Academy is to empower the diverse youth of Mitrovica through arts and sustainability education, enhancing environmental awareness, artistic expression, and social responsibility, thereby contributing to the creation of an inclusive, peaceful, and sustainable region.

The 7Arte Academy through its multifaceted training programs, engaged up to 50 youth in creative and environmental initiatives that combined practical skill-building with social and environmental awareness. Participants attended diverse training such as graphic design, stop-motion animation, videography, digital art and illustration, eco-art workshops, and basic painting and drawing sessions.

Over the course of two months, participants in the Graphic Design training at 7Arte Academy delved into the creative and technical foundations of visual communication. Through 48 hours of hands-on learning, spread across three sessions per week, participants explored the core principles of design, including the use of geometric shapes, the art of color combination, and the thoughtful selection of fonts.

The Digital Art and Illustration training provided participants with an introduction to illustration basics, culminating in the creation of an illustration book on environmental themes after eight weeks of practice. This book will be printed and distributed to children at the Green Fest, encouraging them to learn about environmental issues and engage with the artwork by coloring the illustrations.

The Videography training empowered participants to master camera techniques and video editing. Working collaboratively, they produced a promotional video for a local coffee business in Mitrovica, showcasing their skills and supporting a small local enterprise.

In the Stop-Motion Animation training, participants applied their artistic and technical skills to create an animation addressing environmental concerns. They conceptualized, illustrated, and filmed their work, resulting in a powerful short animation that promotes environmental awareness.

The Eco-Art Workshop at the 7Arte Academy was a dynamic blend of education, creativity, and environmental activism. Led by artist Driton Selmani, this four-day workshop aimed to deepen participants' understanding of environmental issues and encourage creative responses to these challenges.

The program began with screenings of environmental documentaries and group discussions, providing a foundation of knowledge and sparking conversations about local environmental concerns. Participants also visited Mitrovica's rivers, witnessing firsthand the impact of pollution, which inspired the creation of a meaningful art installation.

The workshop's highlight was the collective effort to design and build a scarecrow made from recycled materials. Symbolically, the scarecrow was intended to "frighten" people away from polluting the rivers and serve as a striking visual reminder of the importance of environmental protection.



EMPOWERING THE UNHEARD

The "7Arte on Wheels" project aimed to foster creativity and environmental awareness among students in underserved and marginalized communities in Mitrovica and its surrounding regions. By conducting art-based workshops, screening educational movies, and providing sustainable resources like art supplies and films, the project inspired children to express themselves creatively while exploring important environmental topics. The initiative reached six diverse schools, leaving a lasting impact through student-created artwork displayed in schools and resources for continued learning. Through engaging, non-formal education approaches, the project promoted inclusivity, environmental consciousness, and the value of creative expression in shaping a sustainable future.



TREPÇA HERITAGE TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Trepça Heritage Trail Development aims to preserve and promote Trepça's industrial heritage while fostering economic growth and community engagement in Mitrovica. By creating a curated trail featuring key industrial sites, the project seeks to attract local and international tourists, support local businesses, and provide educational and cultural enrichment. Key activities include trail design, capacity-building workshops, marketing campaigns, and guided tours. The project emphasizes sustainability, cultural preservation, and inclusivity, aiming to establish Mitrovica as a destination for industrial and cultural tourism.

The project encompasses a variety of activities designed to ensure its success and long-term sustainability. These include guided tours showcasing Trepça's industrial landmarks, led by trained local guides who are equipped with skills in history, customer service, and safety. To enhance the visitor experience, the project also focuses on developing detailed maps of the trail destinations, ensuring accessibility and a logical flow between sites. Engaging narratives and educational content are created for each site, offering visitors an immersive journey into the industrial history and cultural significance of the region.

In addition to the tours, the project includes capacity-building workshops to train guides and local stakeholders, equipping them with the knowledge and skills needed to provide professional and engaging experiences for visitors. A marketing and communication strategy is also implemented to promote the trail, utilizing social media campaigns, promotional materials, and partnerships with local businesses and institutions.

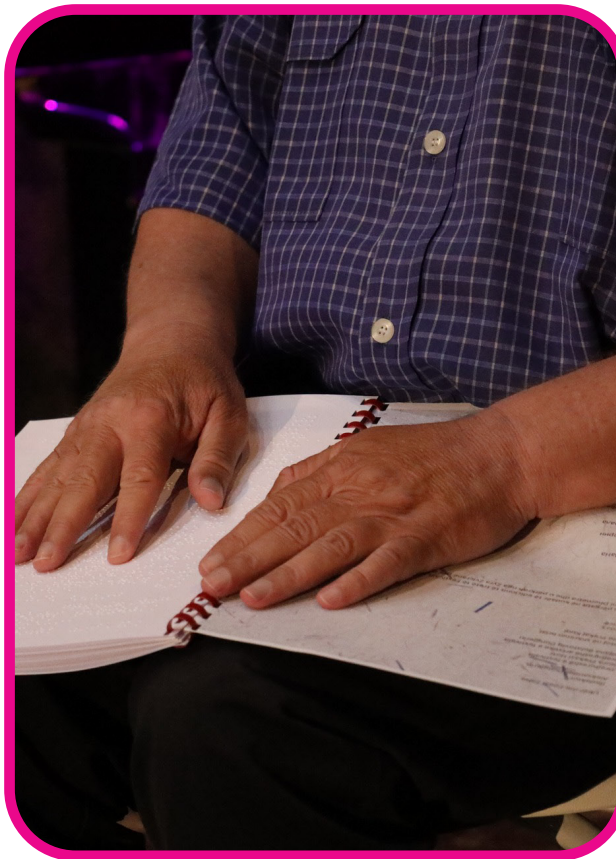


ZANA LITERATURE FESTIVAL

ZaNa Literature Festival is a union of various women artists from Mitrovica that aim to work together so they can unite communities through art by celebrating work of women and youth in the field of culture. Using literature and art as a mean for creating new spaces for learning and interaction, in a city where such initiatives are scarce.

This year's program consisted of poetry nights, creative writing workshops, talks, music performances and art workshops for children.

The 4th Edition of the ZaNa Literature Festival, held over four days from May 22 to 25, 2024, in Mitrovica, under the theme "With Art We Heal," brought a series of inclusive literary and cultural events for lovers of literature and art. This festival united communities through art, featuring various activities such as poetry evenings, creative workshops for children and youth, literary hours, multimedia exhibitions, and music.



At the festival's opening, the Mitrovica Association of the Blind and the “Za” creative writing group read poetry. Additionally, an exhibition of children's artwork created on both sides of the city was organized.

Discussions with Austrian authors Barbara Marković and Friederike Gösweiner at the Akvarijus Cultural Center in the northern part of the city further enriched the festival.

The main evening included poetry readings, music, and sign language translations, moderated by Arbër Selmani.

The final day of the festival concluded with a literary hour featuring local poets, a concert, and a multimedia exhibition, highlighting the inclusion and support of the Austrian Embassy and the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK).

ZaNa continues to be a powerful platform for promoting literature in Mitrovica, offering an inclusive space for artists and marginalized communities, while reaffirming its significant role in enriching the city's cultural life.





**GREEN
FEST**
Edizioni XIV



GREEN FEST

Green Fest is an annual event that aims to raise awareness about sustainable development and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the mediums of arts and culture. This year, the festival focused on the 14th SDG (Life below Water), which is to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

This year's theme of the festival was "Lum Na". Green Fest aims to encourage citizens to come together and work together to build a peaceful environment, a better and more sustainable city and world for all of us.

Throughout the festival, there were a variety of cultural and artistic events and activities, including music, art exhibitions, and educational workshops. These events aimed at showcasing the ways

in which culture and the arts can be used to raise awareness about the urgent need for action on climate change and to inspire individuals, communities, and societies to take steps towards a more sustainable future.



About the program

The Mitrovica Green Fest, held from August 14-18, 2024, offered a vibrant and diverse lineup of activities that successfully raised environmental awareness and promoted sustainable living. The program featured the screening of environmental movies and documentaries, engaging art workshops with children, and insightful talks with experts on key ecological issues. In between, participants enjoyed recreational activities such as cycling, hiking, kayaking, yoga, and pilates, all aimed at promoting a healthier and more active lifestyle. The festival concluded with lively music concerts from well-known artists, creating a dynamic fusion of culture, nature, and sustainability.





Theme of this edition “Lum Na”

Water is a key and endangered resource in today's world, including in Kosovo. Our rivers, once clean, now face pollution and poor management. Rivers like Sitnica, Drini i Bardhë, and Ibri have been polluted by industrial and agricultural waste, while the lack of wastewater treatment infrastructure worsens the situation. Climate change is causing unpredictable droughts and floods with severe consequences. This year, Green Fest in Mitrovica brought the theme "Lum Na," which ironically reflects our behavior toward rivers and water resources. We are the river, and the river is a mirror of our actions. Therefore, let's act quickly so we can proudly say "Lum Na!" (We are blessed!).



ANNUAL PROGRAM

As always the annual program of 7Arte brought the community together through a vibrant series of cultural events, including movie screenings, music nights, and exhibitions. These activities showcased diverse artistic talents while promoting creativity, environmental awareness, and cultural exchange, making 7Arte a dynamic hub for Mitrovica's artistic and cultural enrichment.





NETWORKING

TEH - TRANS EUROPE HALLES

(TEH is the Europe-based network of cultural centers initiated by citizens and artists. It brings together 90 multidisciplinary cultural centers and 53 associated organizations across Europe. As a network, TEH provides a dynamic forum for ideas, experiences, and exchange, supporting their members and their communities.)

YEE - YOUTH ENVIRONMENT EUROPE

(YEE is the largest independent European network of environmental youth organizations. YEE unites 42 member organizations coming from 25 countries.)

PAKT - PLATFORM FOR ART, CULTURE AND HERITAGE

(7Arte, Anibar, Autostrada Biennale, Dokufest, CHwB, Shtatëmbëdhjetë, Teatri Oda, Termokiss, Lumbardhi, Oral History Kosovo)

COALITION OF NON-FORMAL EDUCATION ORGANISATIONS

(YMCA Movement, Ipko Foundation, ArtPolis, Balkan Sunflower, Domovik, BONEVET, 7Arte, CEL, YIHR)

ELLA - EUROPEAN LEAGUE OF INSTITUTES OF THE ARTS

globally connected European network that provides a dynamic platform for exchange and development in higher arts education. It represents more than 280 members in 52 countries, across all art disciplines.)

PARTNERSHIP WITH EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

UMIB - University of Mitrovica “Isa Boletini”

UP - University of Prishtina “Hasan Prishtina”

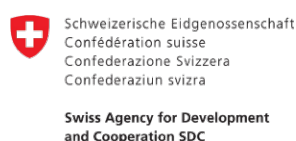


7Arte at the training “Training of Trainers for Empowering the Unheard”,
as part of the Youth and Environment Europe platform

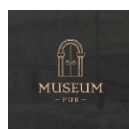


7Arte at the General Assembly of Trans Europe Halles network

FUNDERS



SUPPORTERS





Annual Report

www.7-arte.org

